

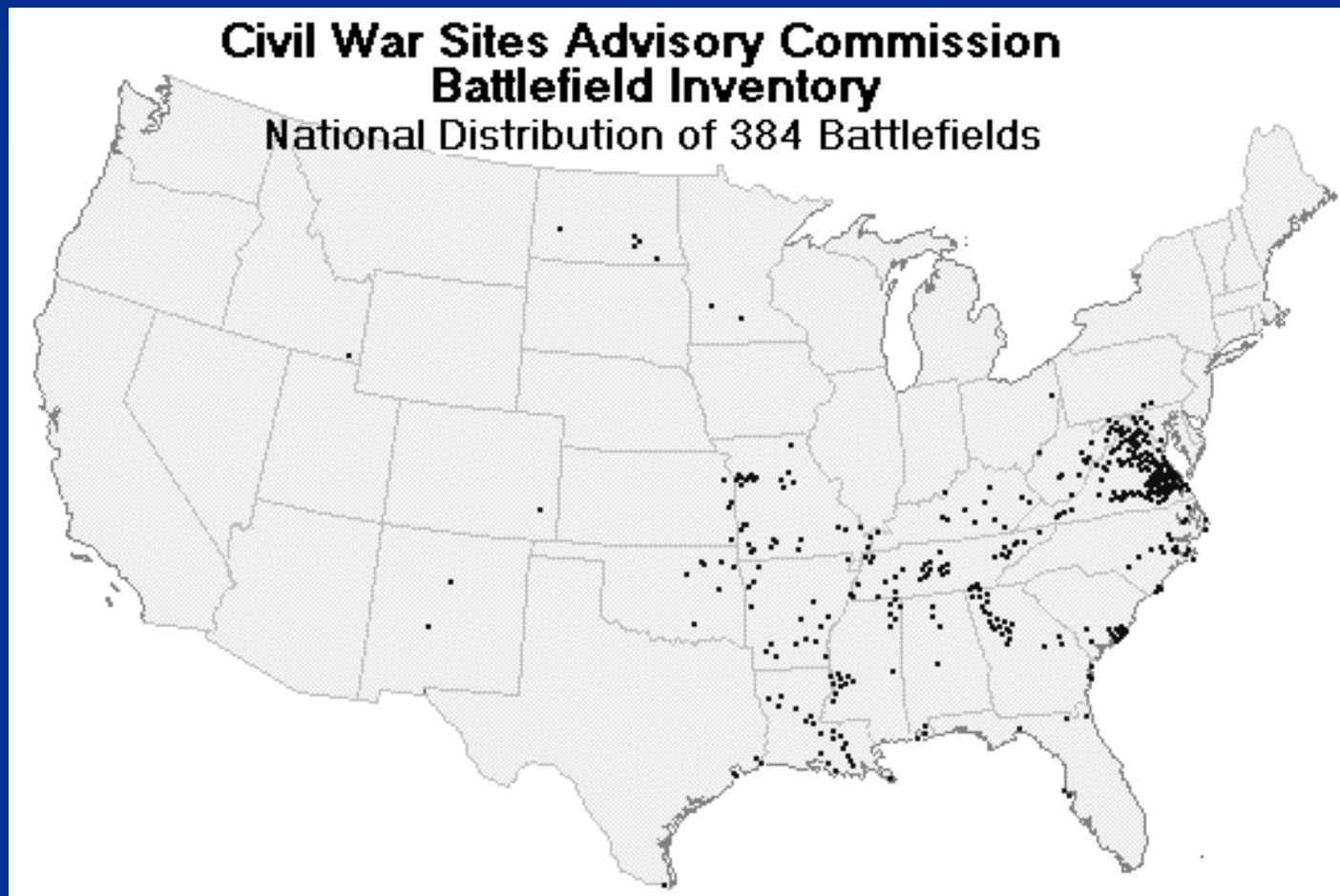
# The State of Battlefield Preservation in the Commonwealth



John S. Salmon  
Historian

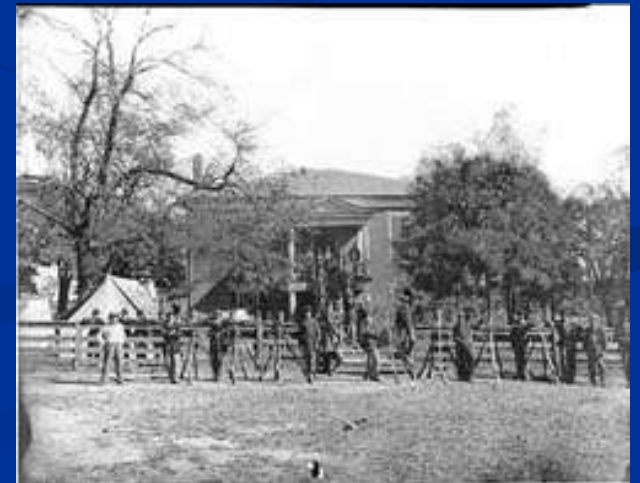
# Virginia: The Nation's Battleground, 1861-65

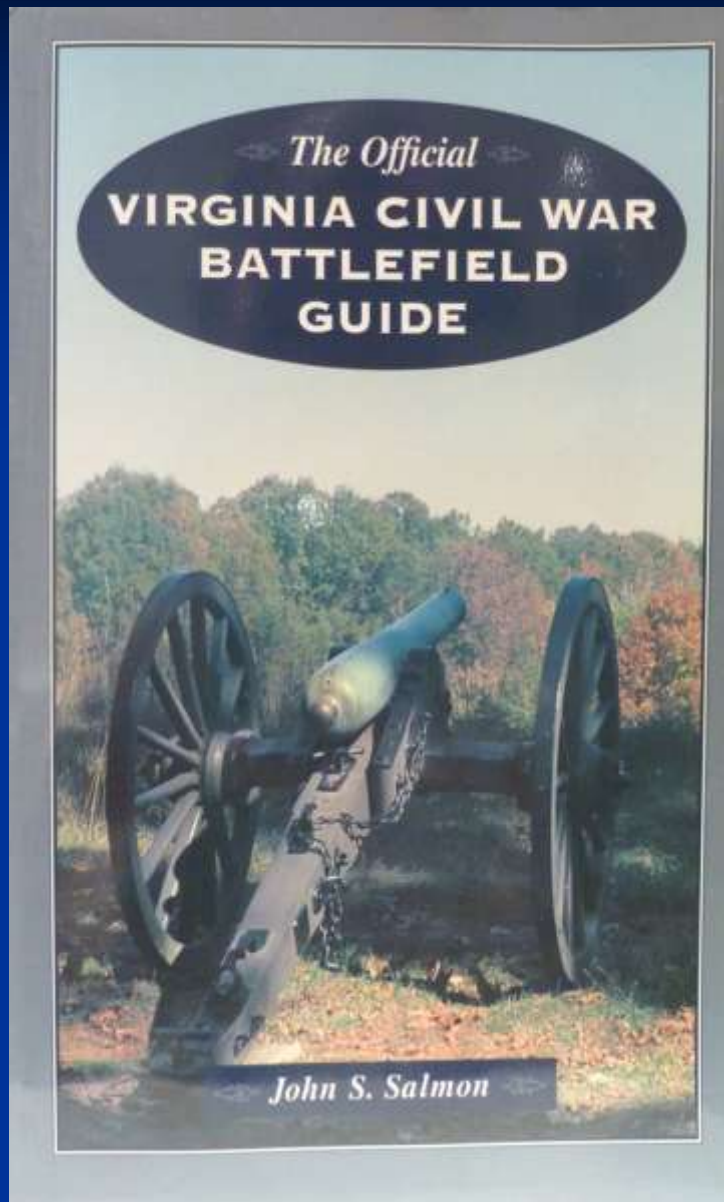
- Virginia has 122 nationally significant Civil War battlefields—more than any other state. Tennessee ranks second with 38.



# Virginia Battlefields, 1861-1865.

- One third of the key battles of the Civil War took place on Virginia soil--From the first clash of the Manassas Campaign at Blackburn's Ford on July 18, 1861 to Lee's surrender at Appomattox on April 9, 1865.





## CAMPAIGNS IN VIRGINIA

Manassas Campaign, 1861

Shenandoah Valley Campaign, 1862

Peninsula and Seven Days' Campaigns, 1862

Northern Virginia Campaign, 1862

Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville Campaign,  
1862-1863

Gettysburg Campaign, 1863

Bristoe Station and Mine Run Campaigns, 1863

Overland Campaign, 1863

Bermuda Hundred Campaign, 1864

Shenandoah Valley Campaign, 1864-65

Southwest Virginia Campaigns, 1864-1865

Richmond and Petersburg Campaign, 1864-1865

Appomattox Campaign, 1865

# Virginia and the Nation have made great strides in conserving Virginia's battlefield lands.



Governors Kaine, McDonnell, and McAuliffe and the Virginia General Assembly have actively supported battlefield preservation through public policies that support local and private land conservation.



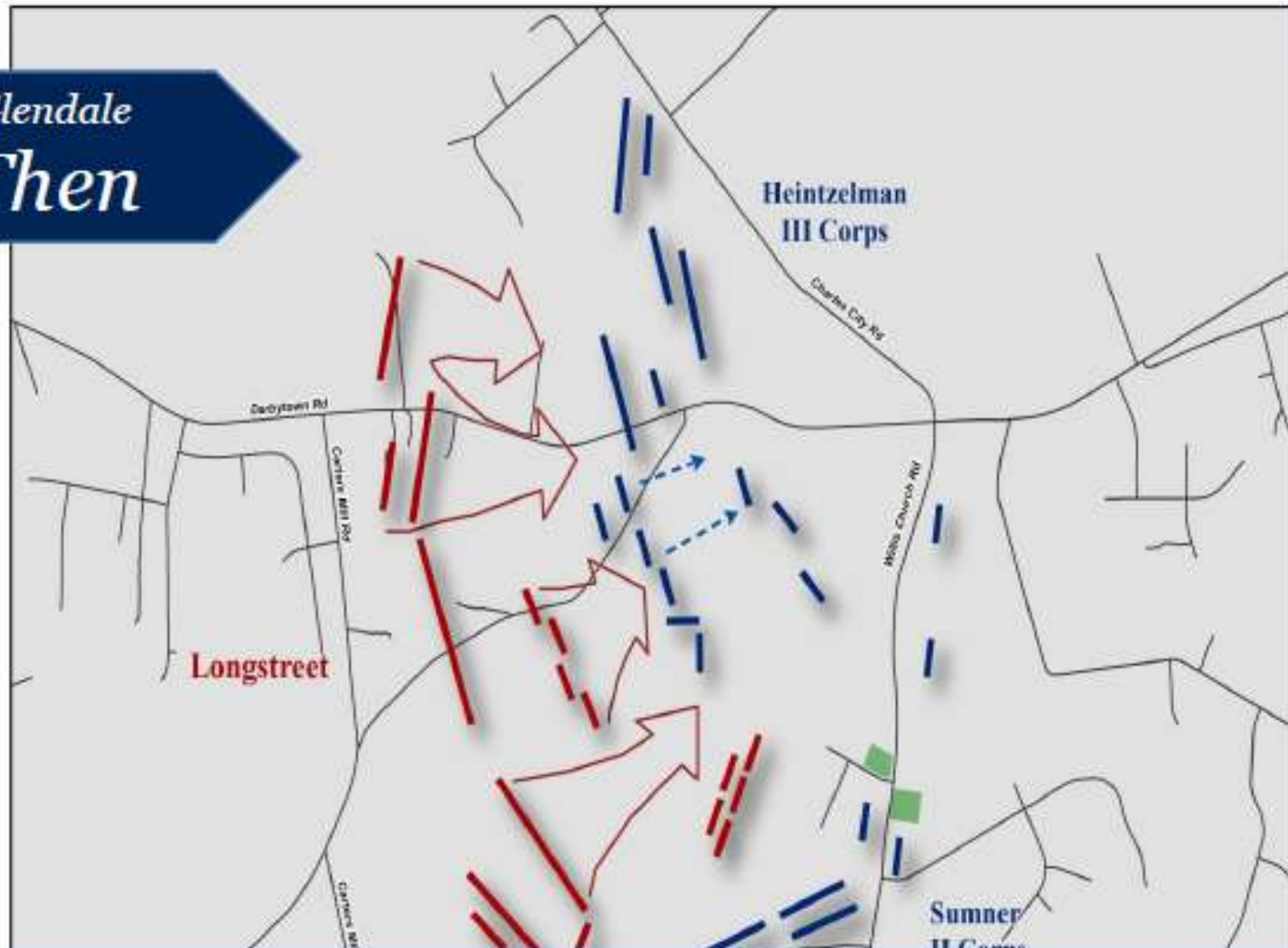
Partnerships with willing landowners that respect Virginia's strong property rights tradition and local land use authority are the keys to continued preservation success.



# Glendale and Malvern Hill

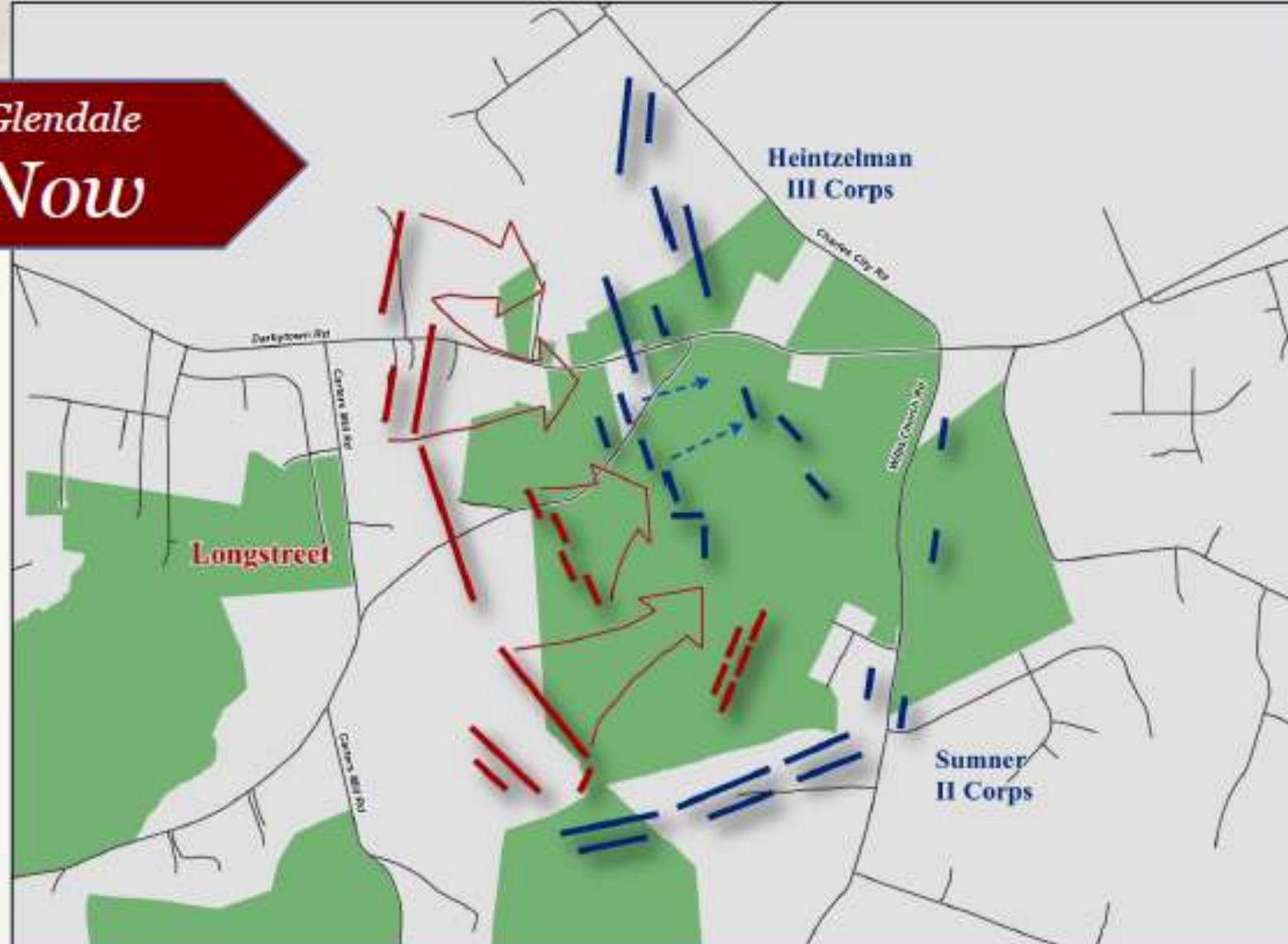


Glendale  
*Then*



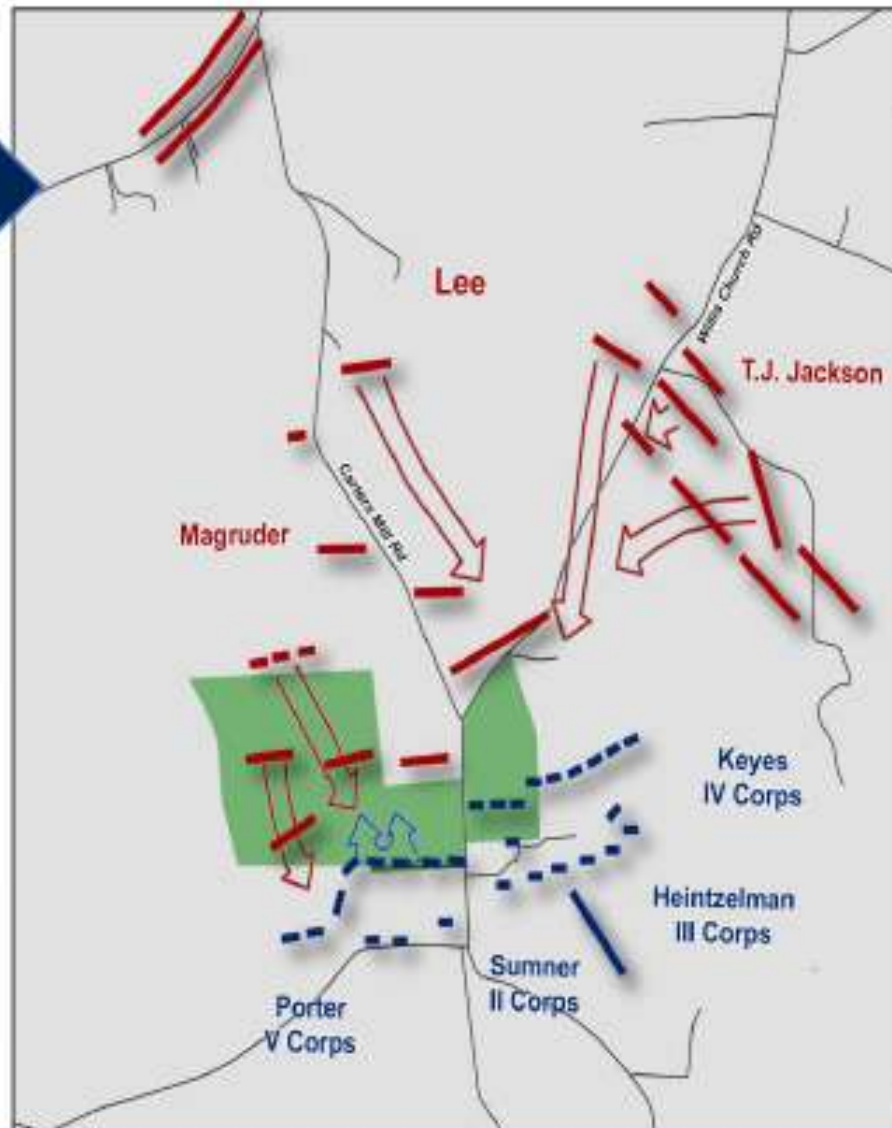
1987 - 1 Acre

Glendale  
*Now*



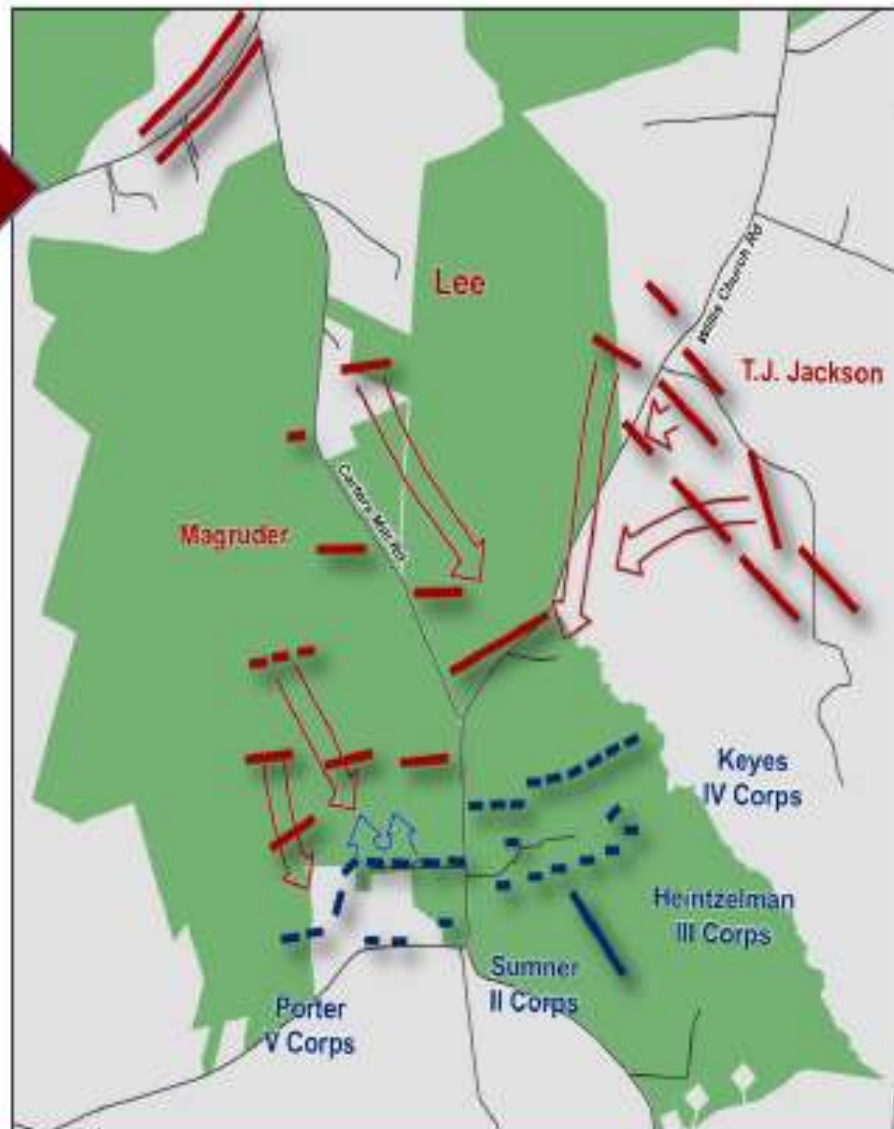
677 Acres Saved

Malvern Hill  
*Then*



1987 - 130 Acres

*Malvern Hill*  
*Now*



953 Acres Saved

Glendale, Malvern, Deep Bottom

*Then*



1987 – 131 Acres

*Glendale, Malvern, Deep Bottom*

*Now*



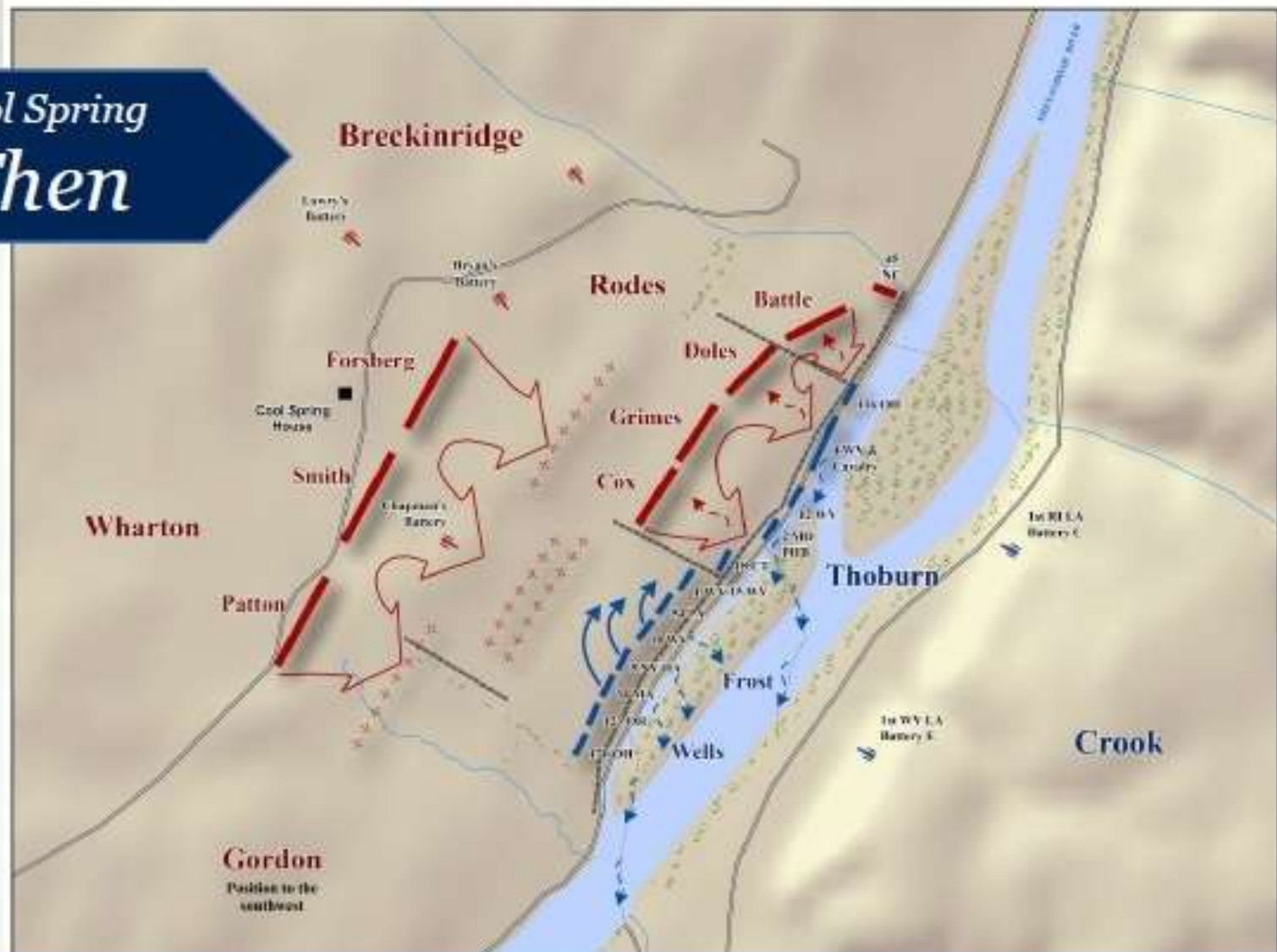
**1,860 Acres Saved**

*3.5 miles of contiguous battlefields*

# Cool Spring, July 18, 1864

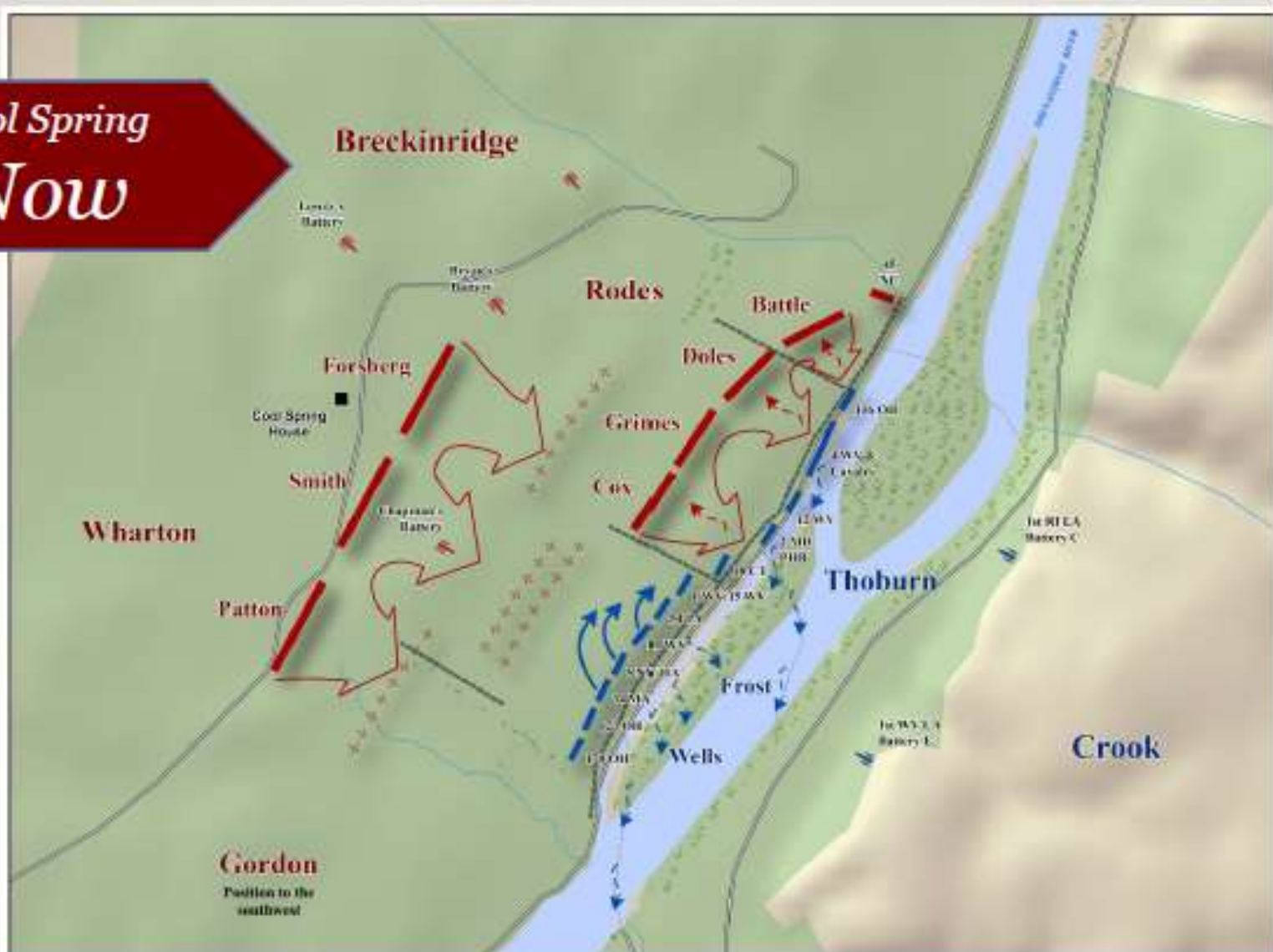


## Cool Spring Then



# 1990 – Nothing Preserved

*Cool Spring  
Now*

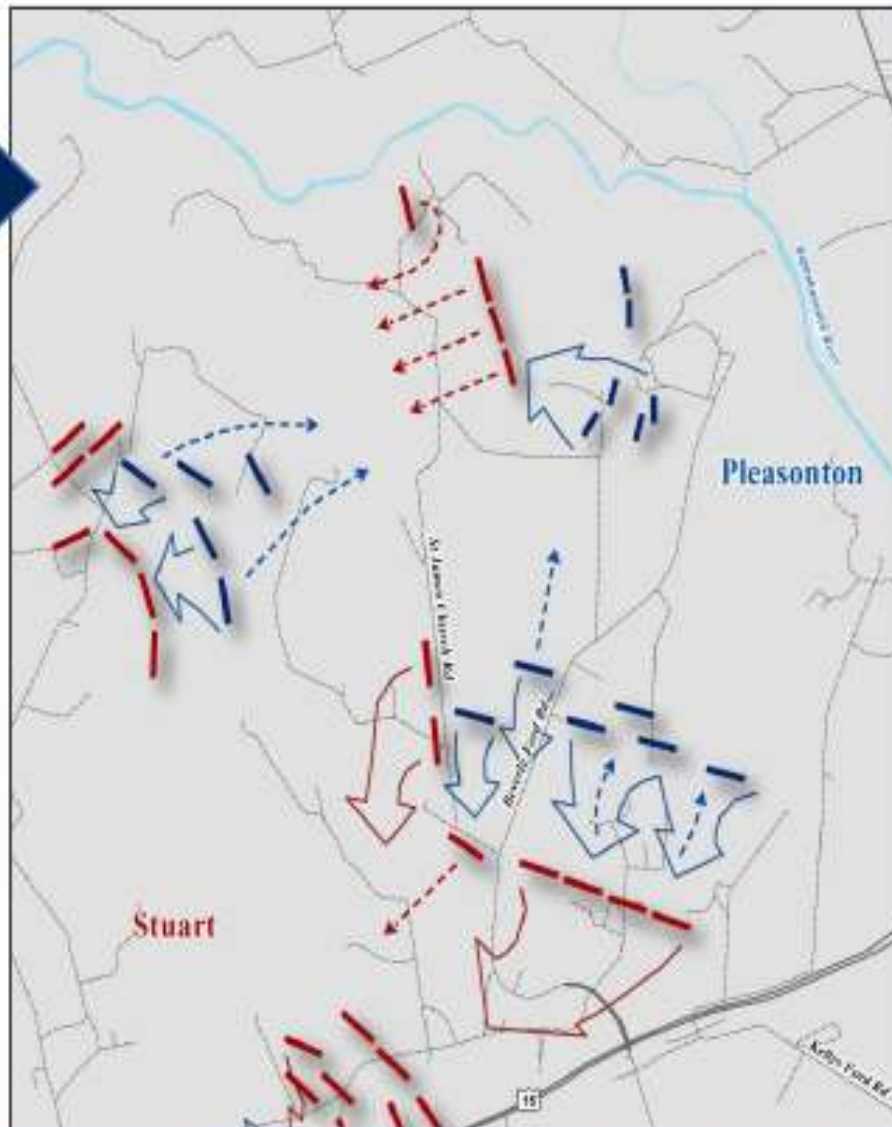


**1,120 Acres Saved**

CHARGE OF SEVERAL REGENTS CAVALRY UPON THE REBELS' TROOP DETACHED FROM THE BATTLEFIELD, JULY 3, 1863. (From the "Illustrated London News".)

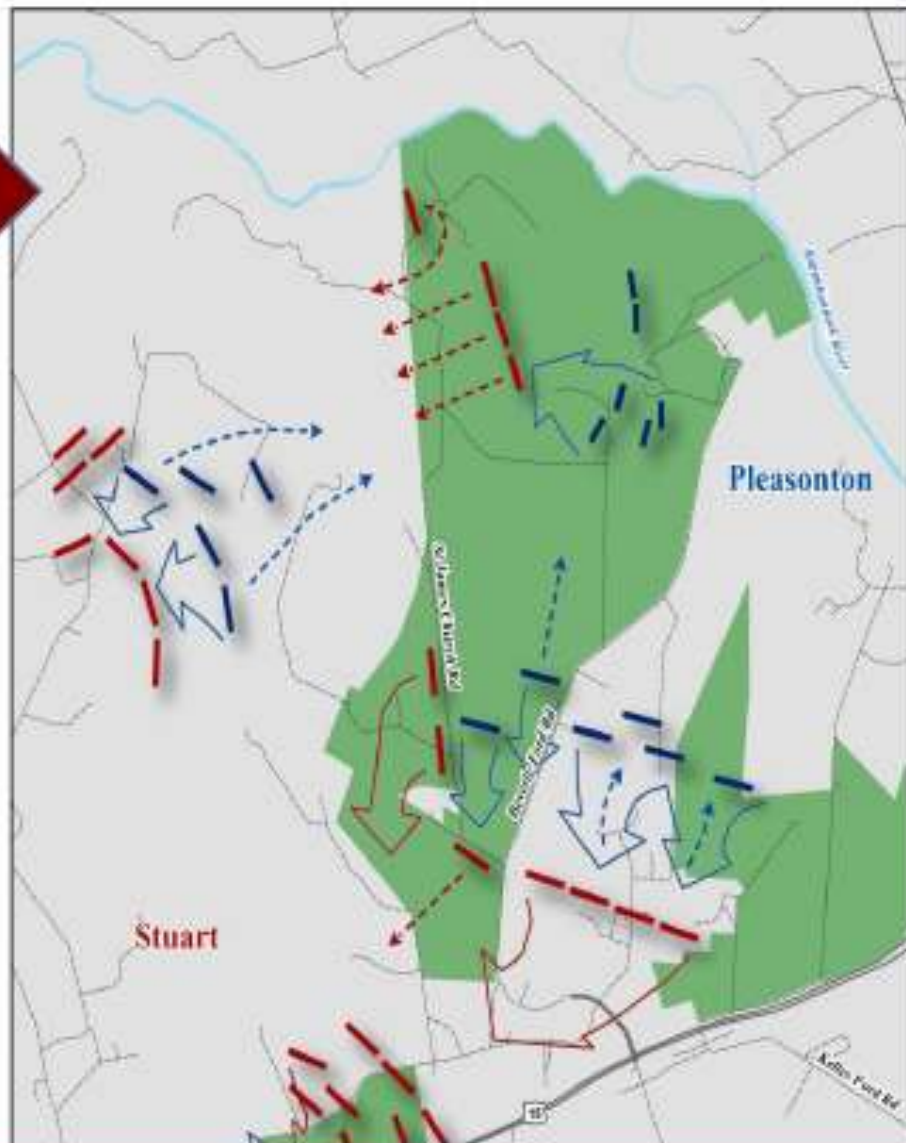
[illegible]

*Brandy Station*  
*Then*



1987 – Nothing Preserved

*Brandy Station*  
*Now*



1,860 Acres Saved

# Preservation Partnerships are Key to Saving Battlefields

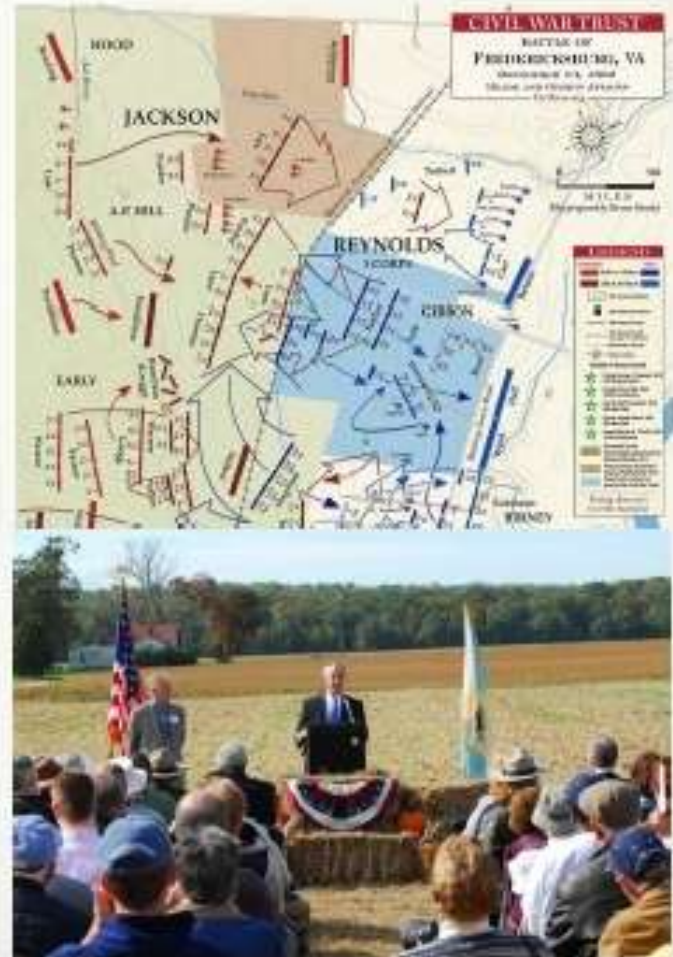
- Partnerships are key to saving battlefields.
- Preservation is an expensive and complicated business.
- Too many threats, too many opportunities to go it alone.



# Preservation Partnerships

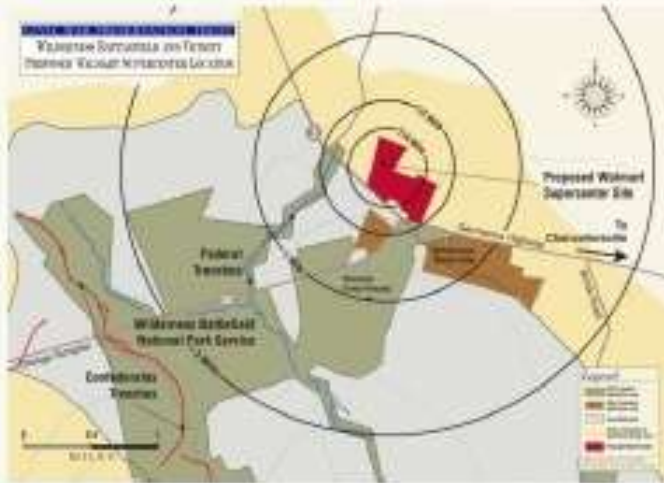
## *Saving the Slaughter Pen Farm*

- 205 acres considered lost preserved at cost of \$12 million
- Govt partners: ABPP, VA DHR, and VA Tax Credit Program
- Other partners: Tricord Homes, Central Virginia Battlefields Trust



# Preservation Partnerships

## *Saving the Wilderness from Walmart*



- Prevented Walmart at gateway to Wilderness Battlefield
- Coalition of public and nonprofit groups key to success
- Followed through by engaging community in gateway planning process

# Federal and State Stewards of Virginia's Battlefield Land



# Funding Sources for Battlefield Preservation in Virginia



- American Battlefield Protection Program
- Virginia Civil War Sites Preservation Fund
- Virginia Land Conservation Foundation
- Transportation Alternatives Program
- Agricultural Conservation and Easement Program

# National Park Service



- Over 40,000 acres of Civil War battlefield land are protected and interpreted to the public at Virginia's 7 national battlefield parks: **Manassas, Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania, Richmond, Petersburg, Cedar Creek, Appomattox Court House and Yorktown and at the newly designated Fort Monroe National Historic Monument.**

# National Park Service



- NPS through the **American Battlefield Protection program/Land and Water Conservation Fund** has awarded 95 battlefield land acquisition grants totaling over \$37 million to protect over 9,000 acres of battlefield land in Virginia .

# Department of Historic Resources

- DHR's Virginia Board of Historic Resources currently holds 96 easements on just over 11,500 acres of 40 different Civil War battlefields.



# Department of Historic Resources

- DHR has awarded nearly \$12 million in state grants to purchase 68 different tracts of land in fee or easements.
- Resulted in the conservation of over 6,557 acres of land on 31 different Civil War battlefields.



# Virginia Outdoors Foundation

- VOF holds 336 easements that conserve over 32,000 acres of battlefield landscapes in Virginia.
- Of Virginia's 122 nationally significant Civil War battlefield Study Areas, 54 have some protection by VOF.



# Department of Conservation and Recreation

- DCR conserves and interprets 885 acres of battlefield land at Sailor's Creek, 175 acres at High Bridge and over 340 acres at Staunton River Bridge.



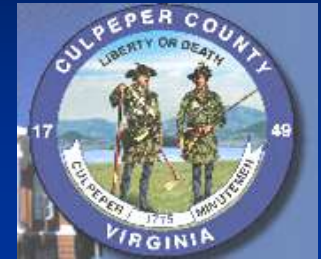
# Local Government Stewards

**Newport News**  
Where Great Things Are Happening



**SALTVILLE**

PRESERVING HISTORY FOR OVER 30,000 YEARS



**Waynesboro**  
VIRGINIA

# The Civil War Trust in Virginia

- The Trust has preserved 20,778 acres of Civil War battlefields through fee simple transactions and conservation easements in the Commonwealth.



# The Civil War Trust in Virginia

- The Civil War Trust currently owns 5,848 acres of battlefield land in the state and holds easements on an additional 207 acres.



# Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation

- SVBF has completed or partnered to close 45 land transactions, protecting almost 4,500 acres of battlefield land on 10 battlefields.
- Major successes at **Port Republic, Cedar Creek, McDowell, Third Winchester and Fisher's Hill.**



# Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation

- If the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District was a National Battlefield Park, it would rank third in acreage for preserved land nationally.
- SVBF also engages in interpretation, education, visitor service and promotional activities associated with battlefields.



# Enthusiastic Regional and Local Partners and Stewards



# Regional Trusts and Heritage Areas

- The Central Virginia Battlefields Trust and the Richmond Battlefields Association and the Mosby Heritage Area Association demonstrate the effectiveness of working regionally and cooperatively.



# Friends of Battlefield Parks



# Local Battlefield Foundations and Support Groups

- Formed in 1996, the **Trevilian Station Battlefield Foundation** is one of Virginia's greatest grass-roots preservation success stories.
- The group has purchased over 1,798 acres of land associated with the June 1864 all cavalry **Battle of Trevilian Station.**



# Virginia Partners for Battlefield Preservation

Civil War Trust, Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation, American Battlefield Protection Program, National Park Service, Department of Historic Resources, Richmond Battlefield Association, Central Virginia Battlefield Trust, Brandy Station Foundation, Chesterfield County, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, Buckland Preservation Society, Historic Polegreen Church Foundation, Trevilian Station Battlefield Foundation, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Prince William County, Belle Grove, Inc., City of Manassas, Piedmont Environmental Council, Fauquier County, Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation, and more.

# The Challenge and the Opportunity

- In 2009 as many as 50,000 acres of core battlefield land in Virginia—those parts of the battlefields on which the most intense combat occurred--were still intact but unprotected.

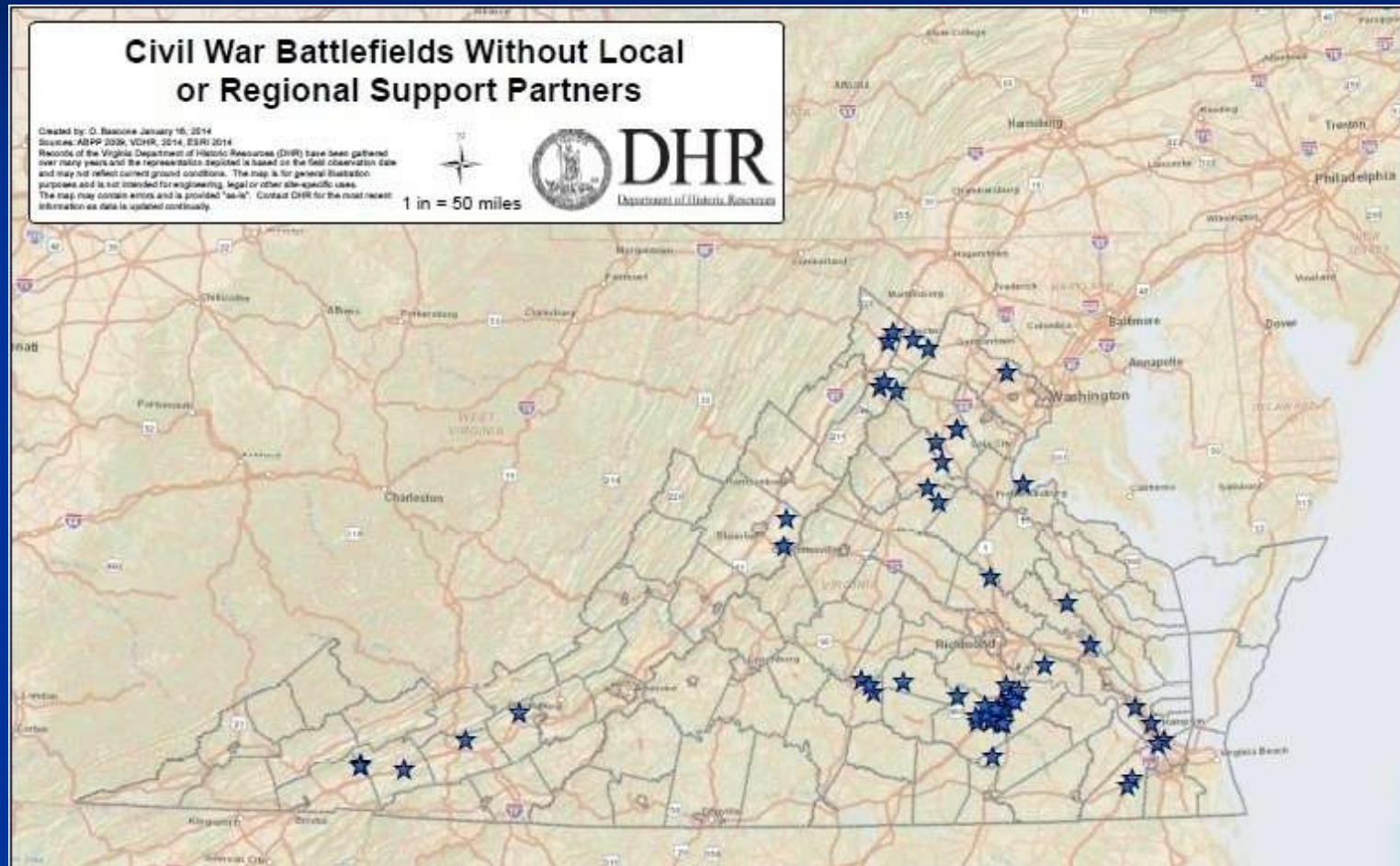


# The Challenge and the Opportunity

- Opportunities for concerted action by private landowners and conservation groups exist at 27 battlefields where all surviving lands are privately owned and unprotected.



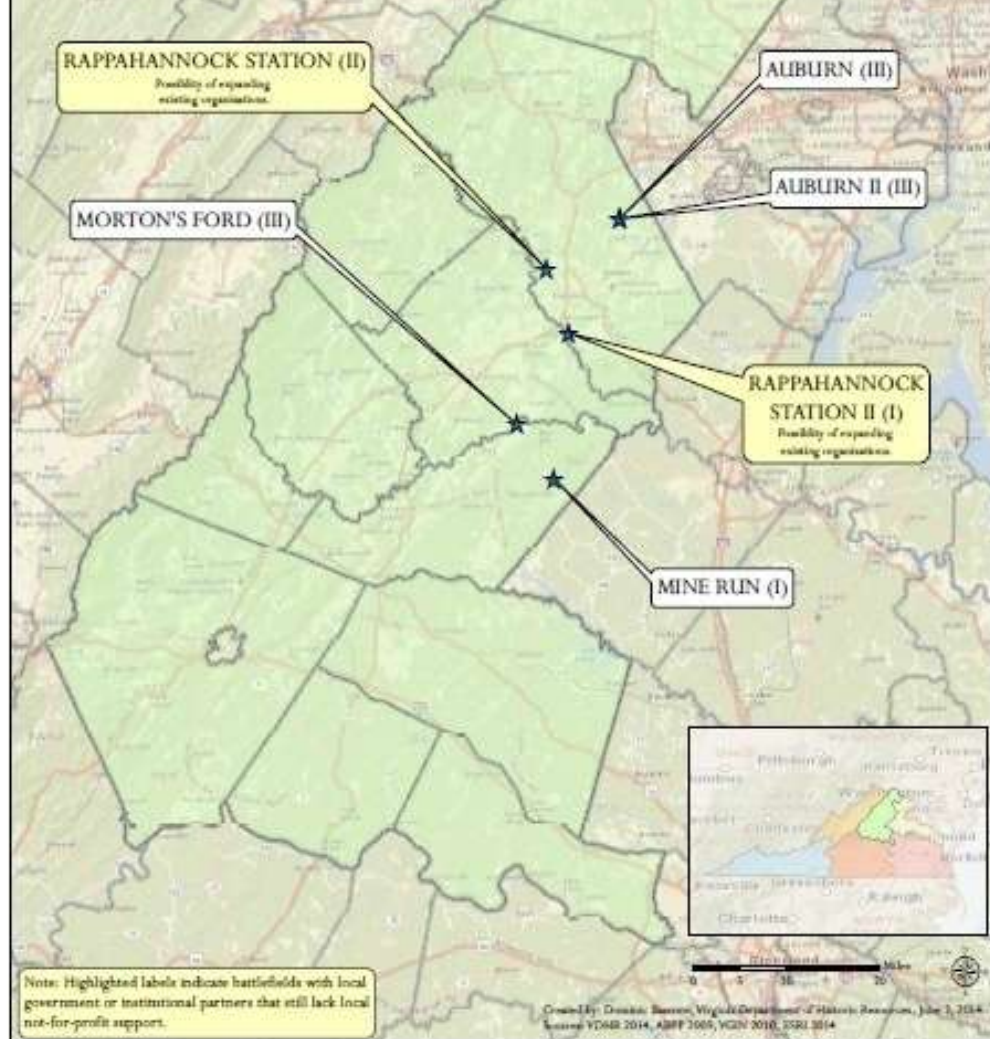
# The Challenge and the Opportunity



- Nearly half of Virginia's Civil War battlefields lack a local or regional support partner

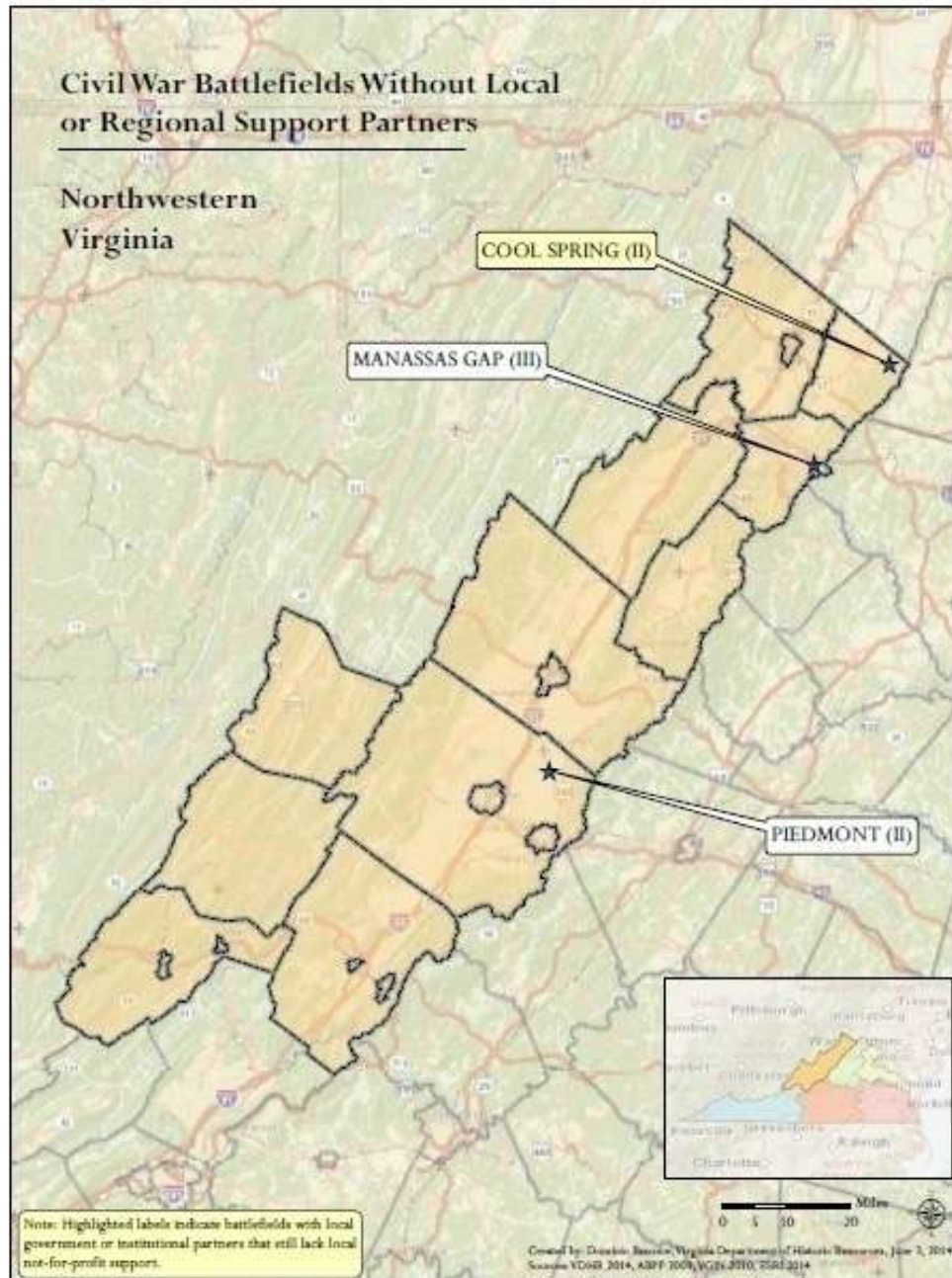
## Civil War Battlefields Without Local or Regional Support Partners

### North Central Virginia



## Civil War Battlefields Without Local or Regional Support Partners

### Northwestern Virginia



# Civil War Battlefields Without Local or Regional Support Partners

Northeastern Virginia

DRANESVILLE (IV)

AQUIA CREEK (II)

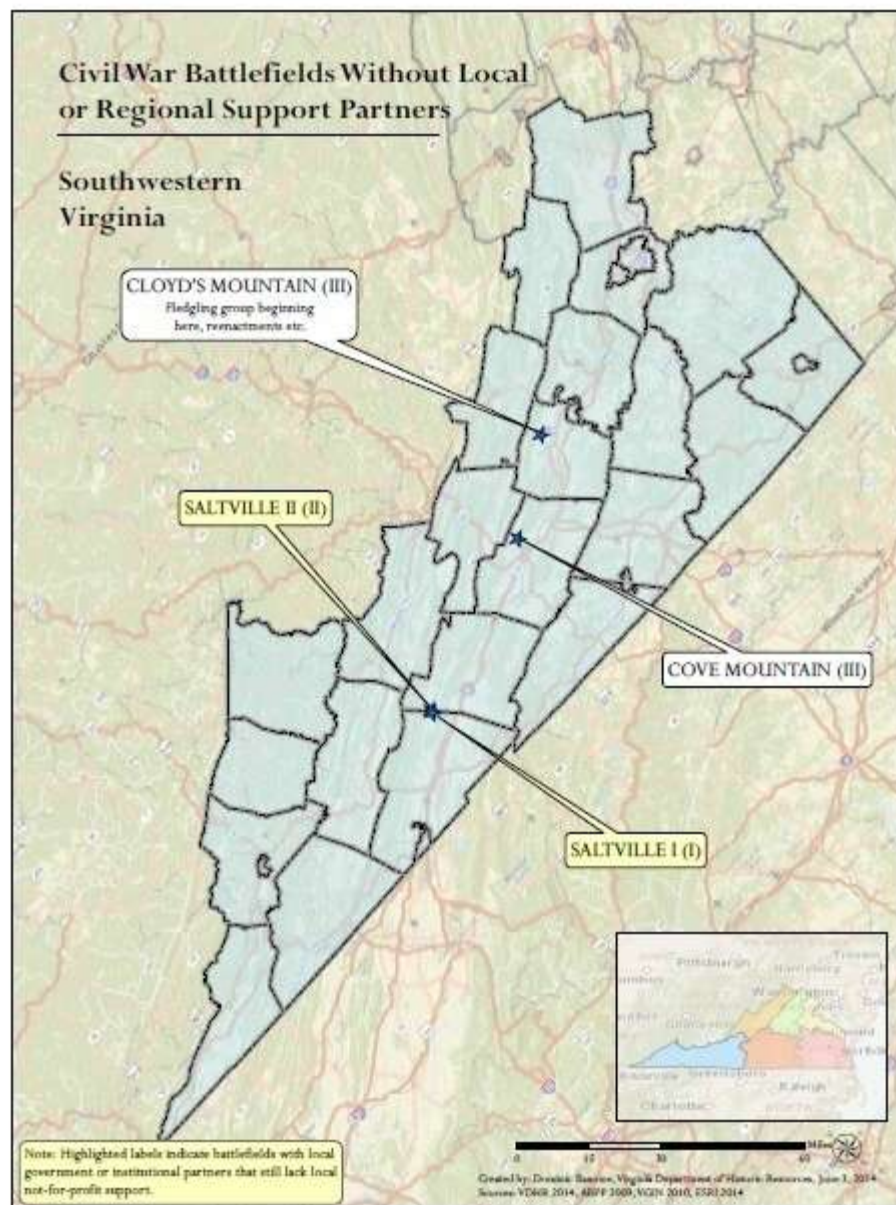


Created by: Division of Historic Sites, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, May 17, 2014  
Source: VDH 2014, ABPP 2009, NCN 2010, KSH 2014

Note: Highlighted labels indicate battlefields with local government or institutional partners that still lack local not-for-profit support.

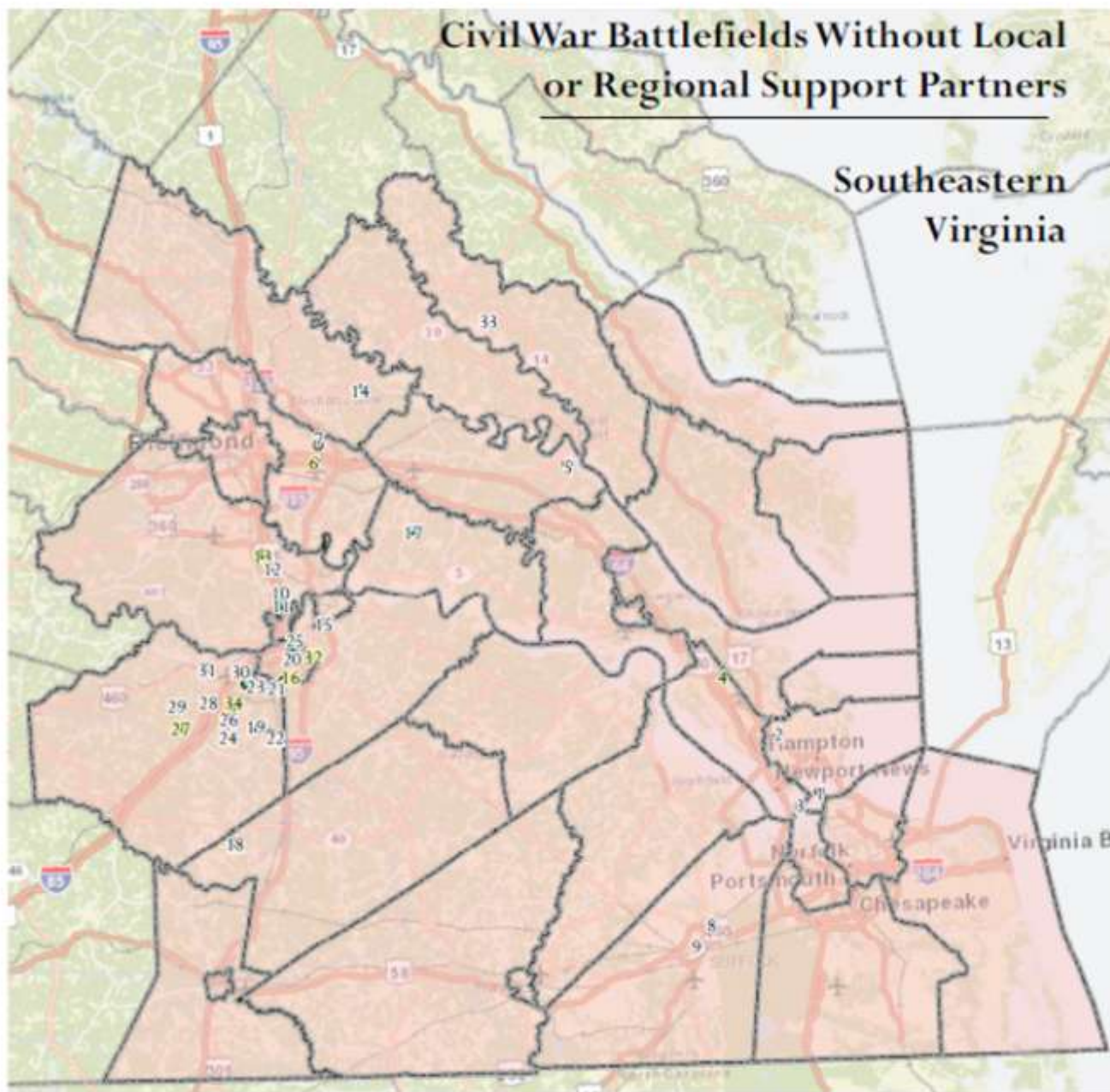
## Civil War Battlefields Without Local or Regional Support Partners

### Southwestern Virginia



## Civil War Battlefields Without Local or Regional Support Partners

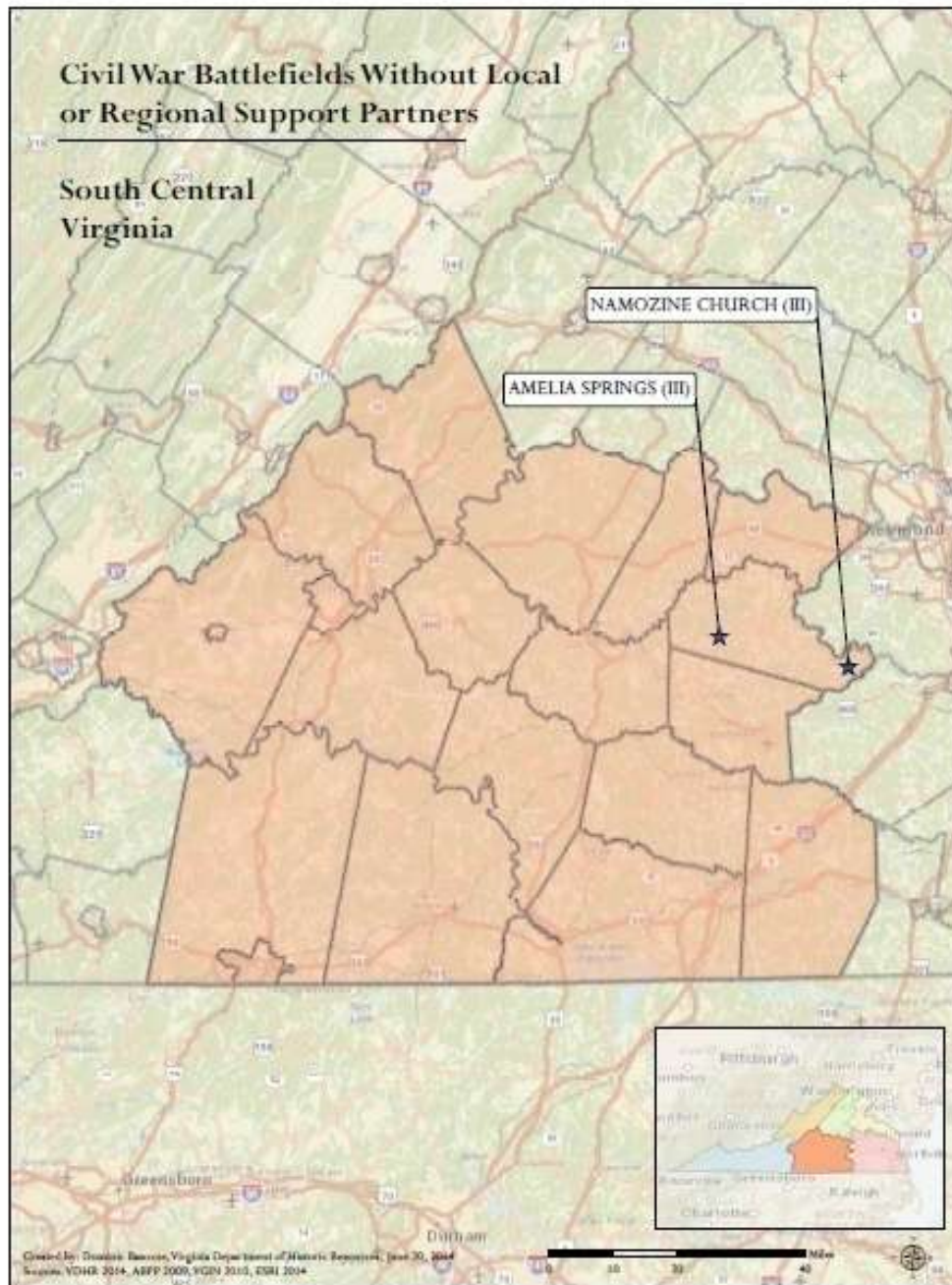
### Southeastern Virginia



- 1 Sewell's Point
- 2 Big Bethel
- 3 Hampton Roads
- 4 Yorktown
- 5 Eltham's Landing
- 6 Oak Grove
- 7 Garnett's and Golding's Farms
- 8 Suffolk I
- 9 Suffolk II
- 10 Port Walthall Junction
- 11 Swift Creek
- 12 Chester Station
- 13 Proctor's Creek
- 14 Old Church
- 15 Petersburg II
- 16 Jerusalem Plank Road
- 17 Saint Mary's Church
- 18 Sappony Church
- 19 Ream's Station I
- 20 Crater
- 21 Globe Tavern
- 22 Ream's Station II
- 23 Peeble's Farm
- 24 Hatcher's Run
- 25 Fort Stedman
- 26 Lewis's Farm
- 27 Dinwiddie Court House
- 28 White Oak Road
- 29 Five Forks
- 30 Petersburg III
- 31 Sutherland's Station
- 32 Petersburg
- 33 Walkerton
- 34 Boydton Plank Rd

South Central  
Virginia

AMELIA SPRINGS (III)



Created by Division of Records, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, June 30, 2004  
Revised: VDHHR 2014; ABPP 2009; VCDH 2011; ESHI 2014

# The Challenge and the Opportunity

- Without strong public support and wise private stewardship, these important historic resources could disappear
- Every acre of battlefield land lost to heedless development shuts another window into our rich cultural heritage.

# The Challenge and the Opportunity

- Has your local government integrated information on the condition, significance and boundaries of Civil War battlefields in your community into your comprehensive plan and zoning?



Why does it make sense to be a friend of battlefield preservation?



# Virginia's Battlefields are Tangible Links to Our Shared History

- Virginia's battlefields are irreplaceable historic landmarks on the journey of our nation toward fulfillment of the ideals and principles of our Constitution and democracy.



# Conserving battlefield lands achieves multiple economic and environmental goals



- Battlefields are environmental assets.
- Battlefields are assets for education and recreation.
- Preserving battlefields contributes to Virginia's economy and to the wellbeing of all Virginians.



# Preserving battlefields makes good environmental sense.

- Maintain healthy forests and retain wildlife and habitat
- Preserve critical wetlands and buffers often near population centers
- Maintain vital water resources in urban and suburbanizing communities



# Battlefields are living outdoor classrooms and places for recreation.



- Engage children, families and visitors in teaching American and Virginia history at the places where history actually happened.



- Provide recreational opportunities for citizens across Virginia.



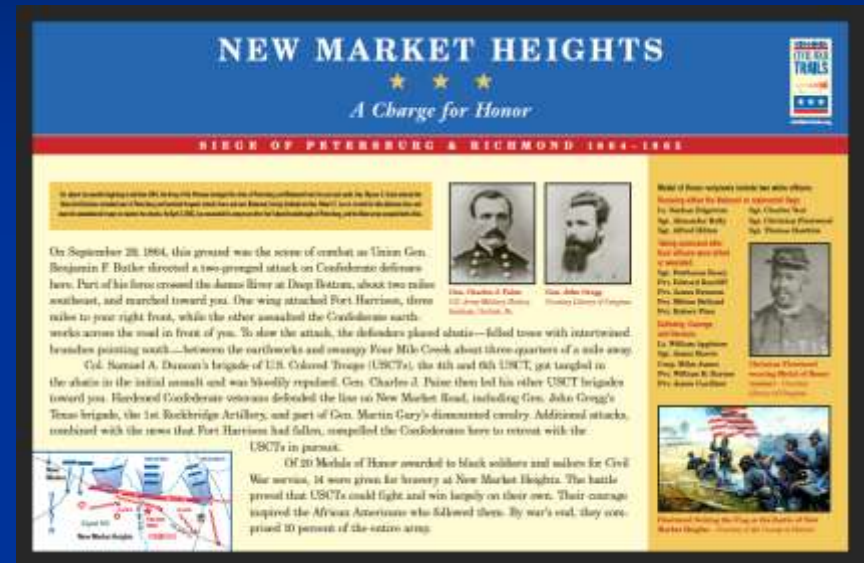
# Battlefields are capital assets for Virginia's tourism industry

- Civil War tourism supports jobs for local residents
- Civil War tourists are active, affluent, and interested visitors
- Civil War tourists generate new state and local tax revenues
- For Civil War tourists, Civil War battlefields are the main attraction.
- Generate business for the local economy.



# Virginia Civil War Trails

- VCWT has opened 542 sites in Virginia, some with multiple markers. 300 of the sites provide first-time public access and 475 provide first-time interpretation.
- Virginia sites are located in 106 jurisdictions



# Virginia Civil War Trails



- Makes CW tourism user friendly and opens Civil War history to a more diverse audience
- Nearly 8 % of all travelers to Virginia visit one of VACWT's sites.

# Battlefields encompass valuable farmland and working farms.

- Voluntary donation of conservation easements enables families to continue working their land as productive farms and forests.
- By allowing farming families to hold onto their land, they support Virginia's 2<sup>nd</sup> largest industry—agriculture.



# The Challenge and the Opportunity



- The Commonwealth and the Nation offer communities and landowners powerful tools and partnerships for battlefield conservation.
- The challenge is for local officials, community leaders and battlefield groups working cooperatively with land owners to pick up those tools and put them to work for their communities.



# The Challenge and the Opportunity

- The Civil War Sesquicentennial has provided a unique opportunity to preserve these irreplaceable sites as a legacy for Virginia and the nation.
- How can we build on this legacy in 2015 and in the years to come?

